

# difference.

## for Primary Schools

We are developing *Difference* for Primary Schools – a free multi-session resource that will equip pupils with the formational habits to cross divides, navigate disagreement, pursue justice and encounter others well.

## Vision

We live in a world that is complex and divided – from global conflict to our own relationships. That’s why Archbishop Justin Welby is bringing together leading educators and peacemakers to create *Difference* for Primary Schools.

Developed by educational experts, *Difference* aims to address the complexities and divisions of our society by equipping young people with the tools to navigate difference, disagreement and fracture. The resource will empower both educators and pupils, supporting them to develop empathy in everyday encounters.

*Difference* aims to instil foundational values of inclusivity, respect, and appreciation of diversity from an early age, drawing on the teachings of Jesus to love one another and treat others with kindness and compassion. By fostering these qualities during formative years, young people will be better equipped to thrive in a globalised society – and ultimately contribute towards building a more compassionate and just world.

*Difference* for Primary Schools is being developed with the Church of England Education Office whose vision for education is deeply Christian, with Jesus’ promise of ‘life in all its fullness’ at its heart.





# Three habits to transform everyday relationships

*Difference* equips young people with three formational habits that can transform everyday relationships.

There is a close relationship between what we believe and what we do. If we can shape our habits, we can build practices that have a deep and lasting impact on our actions, our thoughts and our character.



## Be Curious Community

**Listen to others' stories and see the world through their eyes.**

We read in Genesis 1 that every person is made in the image of God, with value and a unique story. When we are curious enough to seek out that story, we affirm that person's innate value. Demonstrating a true interest in who the other person is shows them that they have been heard and honoured. This can make it possible to begin to tread trickier territory together.



## Be Present Embrace

**Encounter others with authenticity and confidence.**

Our encounters with others are inseparable from our relationship with Jesus (Matthew 25:31-46). Being present in encounters means showing up and sticking around – making time for the other, dedicating our attention to them and encountering them as they are. The Christian faith teaches that God became human and chose to be part of a hurting world. God's response to injustice and hurt is to step into the context in a totally new way, teaching us what it means to be present.



## Reimagine Power

**Finding hope and opportunity in places where we long to see change.**

We believe that God makes all things new (Revelation 21). The habit of reimagining encourages us to be renewed by the Holy Spirit, stretching our understanding of what is possible. It is rarely a solo experience and often done in community. For relationships to be restored, the systems and structures with which we are familiar may need to shift in new ways.

# The resource

Over the coming months, *Difference* for Primary Schools will be piloted with a group of schools, accompanied by training sessions to aid teachers in effectively delivering the content. This pilot aims to assess the efficacy of the resources in a range of educational settings and gather feedback from educators and pupils. The insights gained from this pilot will shape future iterations of the resource.

*Difference* for Primary Schools is set to be launched in January 2025. We look forward to the transformative impact that *Difference* for Primary Schools will have in shaping pupils, educators, and families, shaping a future where every child feels valued, respected and empowered to make a difference.

To find out more about *Difference* for Primary Schools, scan the QR code or visit:

[difference.rln.global/primary-schools](https://difference.rln.global/primary-schools)

Scan here!



## About us

*Difference* has been created by the Reconciling Leaders Network (RLN), a registered charity, part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Reconciliation Ministry. RLN works to mobilise a generation to live out their calling as peacemakers and reconcilers, for a just and flourishing society.

Reconciliation is one of Archbishop Justin Welby's priorities, with a vision for the church to be a reconciling presence in the midst of conflict.

The Archbishop's Reconciliation Ministry aims to strengthen the ministry of reconciliation within the global Church – for reconciliation to be a great gift the Church offers the world. The goal is to build a network of reconciling leaders growing out of, and sustained by, their local churches. That means people from all walks of life, across all sectors and spheres of society bearing the hallmarks of a reconciler, showing God's reconciling love through Jesus.

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## Stay connected

Sign up to our mailing list to receive inspiration for being curious, being present and reimagining in your everyday life, as well as the latest news about what we're up to and how you can get involved.

Connect with us by scanning the QR code or visit:

[difference.rln.global/youth-sign-up](https://difference.rln.global/youth-sign-up)

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## Contact us

 [hello@rln.global](mailto:hello@rln.global)

 [difference.rln.global](https://difference.rln.global)